

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 610)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 8x + 40 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(8) \pm \sqrt{(8)^2 - 4(1)(40)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(8) \pm \sqrt{64 - 160}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-96}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-16 \cdot 6}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-8 \pm 4\sqrt{6}i}{2}$$

$$x = -4 \pm 2\sqrt{6}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $8 + 2i$ and $-7 + 9i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (8 + 2i) \cdot (-7 + 9i) \\ & -56 + 72i - 14i + 18i^2 \\ & -56 + 72i - 14i - 18 \\ & -56 - 18 + 72i - 14i \\ & -74 + 58i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 13x - 10$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 2)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -2 & -13 & -10 \\ -2 & & -2 & 8 & 10 \\ \hline & 1 & -4 & -5 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 2)(x^2 - 4x - 5)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 2)(x + 1)(x - 5)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 2) \cdot (x - 3)^2 \cdot (x - 7)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

